

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A space-dividing wall panel system comprising:

a plurality of generally rectangular upright wall panels serially connected together so as to define a vertically enlarged wall extending upwardly from a floor, each said wall panel having upper and lower edges which are vertically spaced apart and opposite ends which are laterally spaced apart, and further having a panel frame disposed in load-bearing relation with the floor;

said panel frame comprising a pair of laterally spaced vertical uprights defining said opposite ends of said wall panel and horizontal first and second cross members extending laterally between said uprights, said first and second cross members being disposed in vertically spaced relation and having opposite ends rigidly connected to said uprights so as to define an open interior of said panel frame, each said upright having a width defined between opposite outward facing side surfaces thereof;

said wall panel further including a plurality of cover panels which are mounted on said panel frame to enclose said open interior, said cover panels having interior panel surfaces spaced outwardly of said uprights such that outer panel surfaces of said cover panels define a panel width that is greater than said width of said uprights, said wall panel including elongate laterally elongate channels extending laterally between said opposite ends thereof on opposite sides of said wall panel, said channels being disposed outwardly of said side surfaces of said uprights in a non-interfering relation therewith and having opposite first and second open

ends which open laterally from said opposite ends of said wall panel, each said channel adapted to be aligned with a serially-adjacent one of said channels of a serially-adjacent wall panel;

each serially-adjacent pair of said channels having said first open end of one said channel aligned in communication with said second open end of another said channel to define an uninterrupted mounting track extending laterally between said serially-connected wall panels, each said mounting track being accessible from an exterior of said wall panels wherein at least one said mounting track is an intermediate track spaced vertically from said upper and lower edges; and

at least one connector assembly being provided for mounting a workstation component thereto, said connector assembly having a connector arrangement connecting said connector assembly to said mounting track, said connector arrangement comprising a hook-like member adapted to slidably engage said first channel.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 1, wherein each of said first and second cross members respectively include a pair of said channels, said channels of each said pair being disposed outwardly from and on opposite sides of each said upright to define a pair of said mounting tracks which are accessible from respective opposite sides of said wall panel.

4. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second cross members is a box beam structure which extends laterally between said uprights, said box beam structure having a vertically enlarged height defined by upper and lower beam edges thereof which is a substantial portion of the vertical height of said uprights, and ~~box beam~~ wherein at least one of

said upper and lower beam edges includes said channels extending therealong.

5. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 4, wherein said channels are disposed on both of said upper and lower beam edges so as to respectively open upwardly and downwardly.

6. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 4, wherein said box beam structure has an interior defined vertically between said upper and lower beam edges, said interior including an interior core therein which provides structural strength to said box beam structure.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 1, wherein said open interior defines an interior horizontal raceway for receiving cabling therein and at least one said cover panel is adapted to cover said horizontal raceway on one side thereof, said cover panels being connected to said frame by mounting means for mounting said cover panels in outwardly spaced relation from said side surfaces of said uprights to define a horizontal passage between each said outward facing side surface and said inward facing interior panel surface, said horizontal raceway opening laterally from said opposite ends of said wall panel through said respective passages defined by said uprights.

10. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 9, wherein each said cover panel is defined by horizontal upper and lower edges, and a horizontally elongate gap is defined along at least one of said upper and lower horizontal edges of said cover panels which said gap is

in communication with said horizontal raceway to permit entry and exit of cabling to and from said horizontal raceway.

11. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one said mounting track opens upwardly along a longitudinal length thereof, said hook-like member of said connector assembly including a downwardly depending leg which seats within said mounting track and is slidable therealong.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) A space-dividing upright wall panel disposed in a load-bearing relation with a floor, comprising:

a pair of laterally spaced apart vertical uprights proximate opposite ends of said wall panel, each said upright having outward facing side surfaces on opposite sides thereof which define a width of said uprights;

at least one box beam structure which extends laterally between said uprights, said box beam structure having a vertically enlarged height defined by upper and lower edges thereof which is a substantial portion of a vertical height of said uprights, and a width defined by vertically enlarged side faces on opposite sides thereof which face outwardly and extend vertically between said upper and lower edges, said side faces being spaced outwardly from said respective side surfaces of said uprights such that said width of said box beam structure is greater than said width of said uprights;

at least a first cross member connected between said uprights a vertically spaced distance from said box beam structure, a horizontal raceway being defined by an open interior of said wall panel which is formed vertically between said first cross member and said box beam structure and

extends laterally between said uprights, a frame of said wall panel being defined by said uprights and said first cross member; and

at least one cover panel which covers said horizontal raceway on one side thereof, said cover panel being mounted on said wall panel in an outwardly spaced relation from said side surfaces of said uprights to define passages, each said passage being defined between said upright side surface and an opposing inward facing surface of said cover panel, said passages opening laterally from said opposite end of said wall panel such that said raceway opens laterally from said opposite ends of said wall panel through said respective passages.

15. (Currently Amended) The wall panel according to Claim 14, wherein said upper edge of said box beam structure includes at least one elongate mounting channel extending between said opposite ends thereof, said mounting channel being spaced outwardly from said side surfaces of said uprights and having opposite first and second open ends which open laterally from the opposite ends of said wall panel, said mounting channel being accessible from an exterior of said base panels for mounting of wall panel components thereto.

16. (Previously Presented) The wall panel according to Claim 15, wherein said lower edge of said box beam structure also includes at least one said mounting channel disposed outwardly of said uprights.

17. (Previously Presented) The wall panel according to Claim 15, which includes at least one connector assembly for slidable connection to said mounting channel, said mounting channel on said upper edge opening upwardly and said connector assembly including a downwardly depending leg which seats within said mounting channel and is continuously slidable

therealong, said connector assembly including a furniture component connected thereto.

18. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 17, wherein at least one of upper and lower horizontal edges of said cover panel is spaced vertically from an adjacent one of said box beam structure and said cross member to define a horizontally elongate gap therebetween, said gap being in communication with said raceway for permitting entry and exit of cabling to said wall panel.

19.-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 5, wherein said connector assembly includes one said hook-like member which engages said channel on said upper beam edge and one said hook-like member which engages said channel on said lower beam edge.

35. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 21, wherein said channels on said upper and lower beam edges respectively open upwardly and downwardly and said respective hook-like members project downwardly and upwardly into said respective channels.

36. (Previously Presented) The wall panel according to Claim 17, wherein said furniture component is a work surface.

37. (Previously Presented) The wall panel according to Claim 18, wherein said furniture component is a work surface, said gap being disposed adjacent an inner edge of said work surface.

38. (Previously Presented) The wall panel system according to Claim 37, wherein one said connector assembly is provided on each opposite end of said work surface, said wall

panel is a first wall panel adapted to be connected to a second said wall panel in end-to-end relation wherein said connector assemblies are mountable to a single said wall panel or to said first wall panel and said second wall panel.

39. (Previously Presented) A wall panel assembly for an office furniture system, the wall panel assembly comprising:

a frame having vertical frame members and a box beam structure which extends horizontally along a lateral length of said wall panel assembly wherein said frame has an open interior which opens outwardly and is adapted to store cables therein, said box beam structure including opposite facing panels and upper and lower edges which extend horizontally;

a plurality of cover panels, each of said plurality of cover panels including a front side and an interior side, said cover panels being individually mounted to the frame to overlie said open interior wherein a space is formed between the frame and said interior side of a respective said cover panel to permit the passage of cables laterally therethrough, and wherein horizontal gaps are formed along horizontal edges of said cover panels such that a plurality of said gaps are provided at a plurality of vertical heights on said wall panel assembly; and

a routing arrangement for routing cables through said wall panel assembly, such that a plurality of cable entry or exit pathways are defined by said plurality of horizontal gaps.

40. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, wherein a mounting channel extends along at least one of said upper and lower beam edges for mounting of wall panel components exteriorly of the wall panel assembly.

41. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, which includes cables within said open

interior wherein said cables pass through said space and/or said gaps.

42. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, wherein one said cover panel has a first said gap defined along an upper one of said edges of said one cover panel and a second said gap defined along a lower one of said edges of said one cover panel.

43. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, wherein said frame includes a top cross member along a top edge of said wall panel assembly adjacent to one said cover panel wherein one said gap is defined between said top cross member and an upper one of said edges of said one cover panel.

44. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 43, wherein said top cross member is adapted to mount office furniture accessories thereon.

45. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 44, wherein said top cross member includes a channel extending horizontally and said wall panel assembly includes an office furniture accessory having a mounting bracket engaged with said channel.

46. (Currently Amended) A wall panel assembly for an office furniture system, the wall panel assembly comprising:

a frame having horizontal frame members which extend horizontally along a lateral length of said wall panel assembly and having vertical frame members which support said horizontal frame members wherein said frame has an open interior which opens outwardly and is adapted to store cables therein, said frame including a top cross member along a top edge of said wall panel assembly;

said wall panel assembly further having a plurality of vertically spaced apart mounting channels which extend horizontally and are adapted to support mounting brackets of wall panel components; and

    a plurality of cover panels, each of said plurality of cover panels including a front side and an interior side, said cover panels being individually mounted to the frame to overlie said open interior wherein horizontal gaps are formed along horizontal edges of said cover panels such that a plurality of said gaps are provided at a plurality of vertical heights on said wall panel assembly to permit exit and entry of cables from and to said open interior of said panel, one of said gaps being defined between said top cross member and an upper one of said edges of an adjacent one of said cover panels.

47. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 46, wherein one of said horizontal frame members extends along a top panel edge of said wall panel assembly and includes one said channel for supporting wall panel components along said top panel edge.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Previously Presented) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 47, wherein said gaps are defined proximate said channels to permit engagement of a mounting bracket with a respective said channel through said adjacent gap.